

# Laura Fergusson Community Newsletter



Volume 1/08

Winter 2008

Laura Fergusson Trust  
18 Hamerton Street,  
Lower Hutt.  
[www.lft.org.nz](http://www.lft.org.nz)

Opening hours :-  
Office : 8.30am-4pm.

## Message from the Chairman

*By now you will have received your invitation to attend a Strategic planning meeting. Thank you to those who attended and shared your ideas for the future of the Laura Fergusson Community. John Gilbert has spent considerable time contacting people in the disability sector, and he was keen to hear everyone else's ideas. If you were unable to attend the meeting and would like to make comments, please contact Carol in the Front Office. We would like to hear your views by the 13th August 2008. but if unable to make this date feel free to contact the office any time in August..*

### The Trust Board



## CONTENTS

Mid Winter Disco	1
Obituary— Sue Merrilees	2
News Around the Community	3
Comings and Goings	4

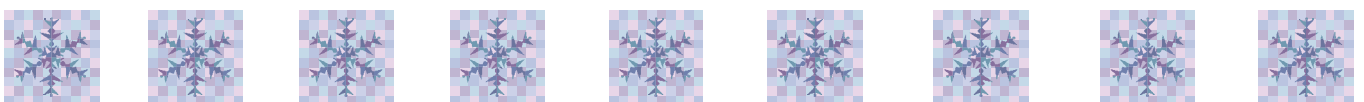
## Mid Winter Disco

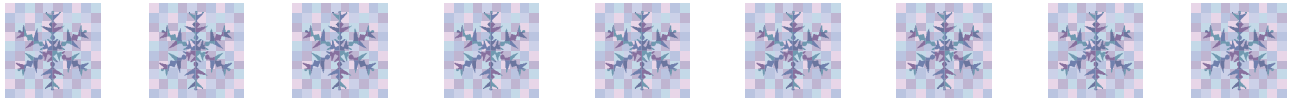
The Social Quality Circle voted once again to employ the services of our regular disc jockey Richard to provide the music for a mid winter disco.

The theme of Top Hat and Tails / Tales seemed to have been a good choice and virtually everyone who attended managed to get into costume - some were more enthusiastic than others - see photos below. It was great to see so many of our off duty staff sharing in the residents' enjoyment with staff and family members able to partner a resident everyone was able to get up and party. Refreshments were served throughout the evening - thank you to Sue, Don, Marama and Marion.

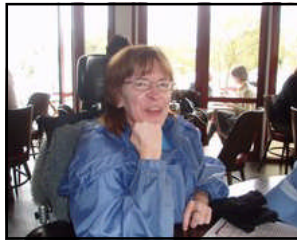
After three hours of non stop dancing there were still a hardy group of very fit, people on the dance floor - quite a feat!!!!

### Some of revelers at the Disco.



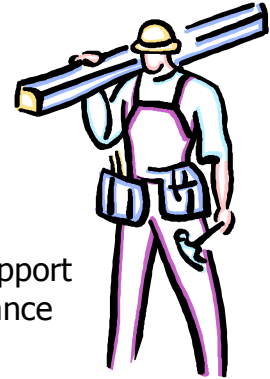
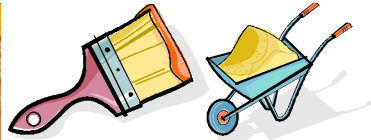


# Laura Fergusson Community Newsletter



## Obituary : Susan Merrilees.

Many members of the Laura Fergusson Community attended Sue's funeral in order to celebrate her achievements throughout her life. Sue had been a resident for thirty one years, so there were many memories to share with her mother Nancy- at the funeral service and then at our own commemoration of Sue's life held a week or so after the formal service. It was noticeable that many people spoke of Sue's sense of humour and friendliness toward many different members of the community. She will be missed by many of us within the disabled community.



## Maintenance Report.

We are most fortunate at the Trust to continue to have the full support of the Board of Trustees and the Ladies Auxiliary for our maintenance programme.

Day to day maintenance is ongoing around the complex—our buildings and grounds are now a very mature 30 plus and continue to require upgrading.

Some of our recent large projects include:

- Overhead hoist installed in Studio 8—we now have a total of five overhead hoists installed throughout the complex

- Refurbishment of lounge/bedroom area in Studio 8

- Painting of trellis fencing around main courtyard

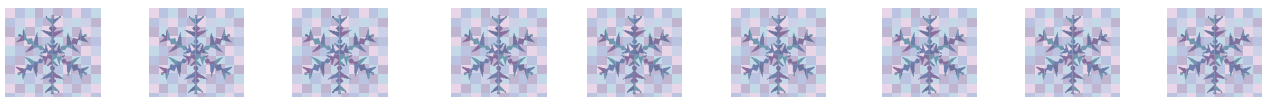
- The repainting of extra road markings in and around the complex by Capital Roadmarking Ltd

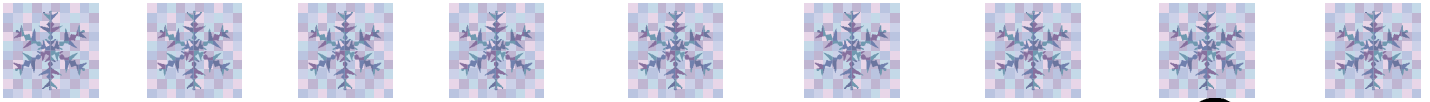
- Awaiting asphalt repairs at various areas of grounds by Wellington Asphalt Co.

- Refurbishment of Flat A currently in progress.

- Purchase of soft furnishings for respite accommodation.

With the promotion of Flat A and Studio 18 as respite accommodation it is important that these are well maintained. Since we have advised various agencies of our ability to offer alternative respite accommodation, we have had a number of positive responses leading to bookings. All respite consumers are sent a questionnaire / survey on discharge and the feedback has been very complimentary.





# Laura Fergusson Community Newsletter



## News around the Community

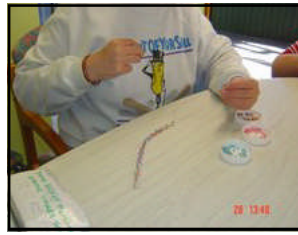
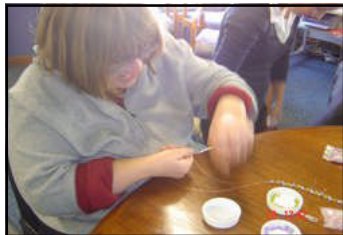


We were fortunate to have two first year Occupational Therapy students with us on placement for the month of June. Kate ( left ) and Phillipa were from the Otago Occupational Therapy School. As part of their placement they are required to contribute to the



Community. Kate and Phillipa assisted in facilitating a Jewellery workshop—several residents spent an enjoyable afternoon making beaded necklaces. Thanks to the Bead Shop—Petone for their support.

The students also managed to compile a DVD on the Community and its history, facility, residents—we hope to be able to make this available on the web site at some point in the future.



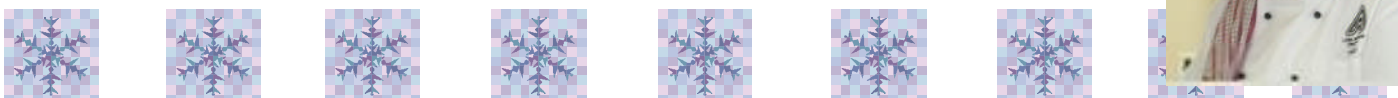
We've had so much rain at LFT so far this winter..... we've had to resort to extreme 'safety' measures!!

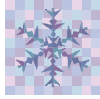
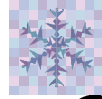
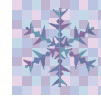
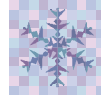
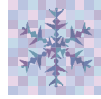
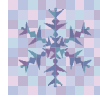
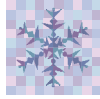
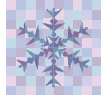
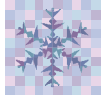
## Comings & Goings

We welcome Richard and his family as members of our Community. Richard has been with us almost two months and as you can see he knows how to have a good time at a Disco!! We hope that his stay with us will be enjoyable.

Rachel Stuart, and Rena Rosvall and Eleanor Singleton are welcomed on to the staff. Rachel, Rena, and Eleanor are assisting with cares and supported cleans. We hope that they will enjoy working as part of our team—we are sure they will add to the diversity and skills of our community. Welcome to the world - Dayna—Kerry Molloy's new daughter.

Congratulations to Shane, our cook, who recently competed in Tae Kwon Do competitions in New Plymouth—coming first in the Team Patterns and second in Sparring.





## *Laura Fergusson Community News-*



### **Staff Training Report**

Over the past few months staff training has gathered momentum and both Managers and Staff have been busy with workshops and training offsite in the following areas:

Safe Steps Food Safety Programme—This programme is offered offsite and two groups of staff have completed the programme successfully.

Educational Workshop on Day to Day Living/Working with Dysphasia —this was off site—a community programme offered through parent support group in Eastbourne.

Infection (Bug) Control Workshop—Two staff traveled to a workshop in Palmerston North—it is hoped to have a workshop on site for all staff in the future.

Launch of National Certificate in Community Support—This was attended by Management and staff who have completed the Human Services Certificate. This programme is being offered by Careerforce—and is probably to become mandatory for all staff to complete.

Fieldwork Education Forum— One of the Occupational Therapists is a member of the team looking to develop Unit Standards in the area of Traumatic and Acquired Brain Injury.

Chemical Awareness and Safety Programme—A number so staff attended this on site programme offered free by Ecolab.

Educational Workshop on Diabetes—One of the Hutt Valley Health educator's provided on site training for our support staff.

Non-violent Crises Intervention Workshop—This was offered on site by our certified CPI Instructor—over a period of two days.

Trial Evacuation under Fire Safety and Evacuation of Buildings Regulations 2006—All residents living on site and eight staff members, co-ordinators, and management staff.

Health and Safety Workshop. Attended by Health and Safety Manager—off site in Palmerston North.

We have approximately eight staff presently working through completing various CareerForce Certificates and another two new staff members ready to sign up for the Foundation Skills Level 2 Course.

A Management team member has been participating in discussions at the Ministry of Health on Disability Workplace Strategy.

The CEO has attended the TBI Rehabilitation Conference.

Health and Wellness advisor is to attend Infection Control conference this month

Health and disability training for consumers and staff will take place in August.

As you can see we try to ensure that all staff have the opportunity of participating in staff training and we appreciate the support of the Board.

